

Washington, D.C. – U.S. Rep. Tom Rooney (FL-16) today issued the following statement after the Social Security Administration announced that, for the second year in a row, there will be no cost of living adjustment (COLA) for Social Security benefits next year:

“While Washington Democrats have focused on trillion dollar bailouts and government takeovers, our seniors’ cries for help have fallen on deaf ears. I am outraged that for the second year in a row, America’s seniors have been denied the social security benefits they need.

“How can the Administration justify this cruel payment freeze to our seniors? The cost of living for America’s seniors certainly has not frozen over the last year. Food, health care and prescription drug costs are all going up.

“Social Security is a contract between the government and our seniors, and we have an obligation to uphold our promise. 58 million seniors and Americans with disabilities rely on Social Security benefits. Many of our seniors, living on fixed incomes, depend on social security payments to put food on their tables and stay in their homes. As costs for seniors continue to increase, social security payments should reflect those rising costs.”

Congressman Rooney cosponsored H.R. 2365, the Consumer Price Index for Elderly Consumers Act. This bipartisan legislation guarantees our seniors a much needed COLA increase in their Social Security checks each month. Seniors need a pricing index that takes into account the unique goods and services they purchase, such as healthcare and prescription drugs, and H.R. 2365 does just that.

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